

April 2013

The Tribal Blues

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Recommended Citation

Dunn, Josh (2013) "The Tribal Blues," *The Anthology*: Vol. 2013 , Article 20.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/anthology/vol2013/iss1/20>

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► ***The Tribal Blues***

The girl with the tribal blues
painted beneath her eyes,
which shine like raccoons'
in the night, is dancing her
wilderness — she has knocked
the books from off the shelf.
How her feet fall so lightly
on them, lifting again, and falling,
conjuring not the rain
but the drowsy spirits of animals
inside our chests. How her shirt hangs
so loosely on her breasts,
how like deer skin sliding off the bone
when she dances, and the whole room
rattles in the tambourine choir.